

Subjects Discussed in Meeting of National Integration Council

462. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times National Integration Council has been reconstituted during the last three years;

(b) the criteria adopted for the constitution of National Integration Council and the terms of members of the Council;

(c) the number of meetings of National Integration Council held during the last three years and the number of members participated in each meeting;

(d) the issues discussed in the Council meeting during the last three years and important decisions taken therein; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to comply with the decisions taken in the meeting of National Integration Council?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (e). During the last three years the National Integration Council has been constituted twice. There is no set criteria for the constitution of the National Integration Council. However, besides certain Central Ministers, Chief Ministers of all States and UTS having legislative Assemblies, Leaders of National Political parties and leaders of Regional political parties recognised by the Election Commission and having at least one elected member in either House of parliament, who are ex-officio members of the NIC, some other eminent persons from various fields e.g. Business, Industry, Trade Unions, Media are also nominated as members of NIC by the prime

Minister who is the ex-officio Chairman of the Council.

2. During the last three years, the NIC has met three times and 111,80 and 121 members attended these meetings, besides some special invitees. In the meetings on 11.4.90 and 22.9.90, Assam, Punjab, Kashmir, Ram-Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid Issues and the general communal situation in the country were discussed and appropriate Resolutions were passed. In the recent meeting held on 2.11.91, Communal Harmony with reference to Ram-Janam Bhoomi - Babri Masjid issue was discussed and a Resolution was passed.

3. In the meeting on 11.4.90 it was also decided to set up three Committees relating respectively to Castes and Communal Harmony, Education and Media. In the recent meeting on 2.11.91 it was decided that a Standing Committee would be set up.

4. Decisions taken in the National Integration Council meetings are forwarded to the State Governments and concerned Ministries for implementing the same. The matter relating to Ram-Janam Bhoomi - Babri masjid is subjudice.

[English]

Pakistani Intruders

463. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistani army regulars in civilian grab were arrested deep inside the Kashmir valley recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). There are unconfirmed reports that some Pakistani army personnel have sneaked into the Valley but none have so far been apprehended. The Government has already stepped up on the border to check infiltration. The Government of Jammu and Kashmir has intensified identified vulnerable pockets and active gangs for gearing up anti-terrorist operation., organising Naka ambushes and effective deployment of para-Military forces in the affected/sensitive pockets. day and night patrolling in vulnerable areas, raids on hideouts of terrorists and extortionists have been intensified. Intelligence, has also been strengthened.

Cut in Emoluments of Political Appointment

464. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
KUMARI DIPIKA CHIKHLIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Conference of the Chief Ministers held during October, 1991 recommended for 10 per cent cut in employments of all political appointments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the proposal is likely to be implemented; and

(d) the yearly saving as a result thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (d). In the meeting of the Chief Ministers held in New Delhi on 4-5th October, 1991, while discussing on Agenda item concerning counting expenditure of the

Government, the Prime Minister made an appeal to the Chief Ministers that there should be a voluntary cut of atleast 10% in the salaries of all holders of political offices in the country. This appeal of the Prime Minister was approved by the conference, this has been brought to the notice of the Chief Ministers of all states and Union Territory of Pondicherry, Governors of States under president's rule and Lt. Governors/Administrators of other Union Territories and also all Union Ministers for taking necessary action.

No information has been received regarding implementation of this appeal for voluntary cut and no calculation of savings is available.

Branch Post Offices in Orissa

465. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS/be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 359 on July 18, 1991, and state:

(a) the name of the places and districts in Orissa where 88 Branch Post Offices and 7 Departmental Sub post Offices were opened during the year 1990-91; and

(b) whether any decision has been taken for the year 1991-92 for 100 Branch Post Offices and 10 Departmental Sub Post Offices where to open, if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The information is given in Statement 'A'

(b) Yes, Sir. A target for opening of 100 extra departmental branch post offices and 10 departmental sub-post offices for the year 1991-92 has been fixed. The details regarding branch post offices are given in the statement 'B' proposals regarding departmental sub-post offices are at formulation stage